

consumers using the Inmarsat Limited satellites. The Bureau further noted that Congressional action is necessary to authorize U.S. participation in the International Mobile Satellite Organization (IMSO) and to eliminate provisions of the Act no longer necessary or relevant to operation of Inmarsat in the United States. The October 15, 1999 STA grant will expire on April 13, 2000. In the meantime, we have received further requests from Comsat and Stratos to extend their STAs for an additional 180 days to continue to allow land earth station operators access to Inmarsat Limited satellites.

Discussion

3. On March 17, 2000, the Open-Market Reorganization for the Betterment of International Telecommunications Act (the ORBIT Act) was enacted into law.² The ORBIT Act provides for the privatization of Inmarsat and requires the Commission to determine after April 1, 2000, whether Inmarsat has “been privatized in a manner that will harm competition in the telecommunications markets of the United States.”³ By this Order, we are giving the applicants an opportunity to modify their applications in view of the requirements of Sections 621 and 624 of the Orbit Act.⁴ We are also extending the current STAs pending Commission action pursuant to the requirements of the ORBIT Act.

4. We find that it is in the public interest to extend these STAs to assure continuation of operations of these land earth stations via Inmarsat Limited satellites. The authorizations here are temporary only and do not prejudice Bureau action on the underlying applications pursuant to any Congressional guidance in implementing legislation. The authorizations are subject to the condition that harmful radio interference shall not be caused to any other lawfully operated radio station, and operation(s) shall cease immediately upon notification of interference. Complaints of all radio interference shall be forwarded immediately to the Bureau, in writing.

Ordering Clauses

5. Accordingly, IT IS ORDERED that pursuant to 47 U.S.C. Section 309(f), Comsat and Stratos ARE GRANTED Special Temporary Authority, subject to the conditions specified in this Order, for a period beginning March 31, 2000 and ending September 30, 2000 to operate the existing land earth stations listed in the Appendix which are currently accessing Inmarsat satellites that have transferred to Inmarsat Limited.

6. IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Comsat and Stratos may amend their applications on or before April 28, 2000 pursuant to the requirements of Sections 621 and 624 of the ORBIT Act.

² Pub. Law 106-180, 114 Stat. 48 (2000).

³ Pub. Law 106-180, Sec. 601(b)(1)(A)(ii).

⁴ Pub. Law 106-180, Secs. 621 and 624.

7. This authorization is issued pursuant to Section 0.261 of the Commission's rules and is effective upon adoption. Petitions for Reconsideration, pursuant to Section 1.106 of the Commission's rules, 47 C.F.R. Section 1. 106, may be filed within 30 days of the public notice of this Order.

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

Thomas S. Tycz, Chief
Satellite and Radiocommunication Division

APPENDIX A

CALL SIGN	FILE NUMBER	APPLICANT NAME	<u>NEW</u> SATELLITE NAME
KA312	SES-STA-20000223-00292	COMSAT CORPORATION / COMSAT MOBILE COMMUNICATIONS	INMARSAT Ltd.-2 @17W in AOR-E @55W in AOR-W INMARSAT Ltd.-3 @15.5W (AOR-E) @54W in AOR-W
WA28	SES-STA-20000223-00291	COMSAT CORPORATION / COMSAT MOBILE COMMUNICATIONS	INMARSAT Ltd.-2 @17W in AOR-E @55W in AOR-W INMARSAT Ltd.-3 @15.5W (AOR-E) @54W in AOR-W
WB36	SES-STA-20000223-00290	COMSAT CORPORATION / COMSAT MOBILE COMMUNICATIONS	INMARSAT Ltd.-2 @17W in AOR-E @55W in AOR-W INMARSAT Ltd.-3 @15.5W (AOR-E) @54W in AOR-W
KA313	SES-STA-20000223-00287	COMSAT CORPORATION / COMSAT MOBILE COMMUNICATIONS	INMARSAT Ltd.-2 @17W in AOR-E @55W in AOR-W INMARSAT Ltd.-3 @15.5W (AOR-E) @54W in AOR-W
KA249	SES-STA-20000329-00474	COMSAT CORPORATION / COMSAT MOBILE COMMUNICATIONS	INMARSAT Ltd.-2 @179E in POR INMARSAT Ltd.-3 @178E in POR
E970322	SES-STA-20000223-00279	COMSAT CORPORATION / COMSAT MOBILE COMMUNICATIONS	INMARSAT Ltd.-3 @15.5W (AOR-E) @54W in AOR-W
E980136	SES-STA-20000329-00477	COMSAT CORPORATION / COMSAT MOBILE COMMUNICATIONS	INMARSAT Ltd.-3 @178E in POR
KA31	SES-STA-20000223-00286	COMSAT CORPORATION / COMSAT MOBILE COMMUNICATIONS	INMARSAT Ltd.-2 @179E in POR INMARSAT Ltd.-3 @178E in POR
E890649	SES-STA-20000329-00478	COMSAT CORPORATION / COMSAT MOBILE COMMUNICATIONS	INMARSAT Ltd.-3 @178E in POR
E980137	SES-STA-20000329-00475	COMSAT CORPORATION / COMSAT MOBILE COMMUNICATIONS	INMARSAT Ltd.-3 @178E in POR

E980144	SES-STA-20000329-00479	COMSAT CORPORATION / COMSAT MOBILE COMMUNICATIONS	INMARSAT Ltd.-3 @178E in POR
KA304	SES-STA-20000223-00285	COMSAT CORPORATION / COMSAT MOBILE COMMUNICATIONS	INMARSAT Ltd.-2 @17W in AOR-E @55W in AOR-W INMARSAT Ltd.-3 @15.5W (AOR-E) @54W in AOR-W
E990027	SES-STA-20000223-00280	COMSAT CORPORATION / COMSAT MOBILE COMMUNICATIONS	INMARSAT Ltd.-2 @179E in POR INMARSAT Ltd.-3 @178E in POR
KA305	SES-STA-20000223-00281	COMSAT CORPORATION / COMSAT MOBILE COMMUNICATIONS	INMARSAT Ltd.-2 @179E in POR INMARSAT Ltd.-3 @178E in POR
KB34	SES-STA-20000223-00284	COMSAT CORPORATION / COMSAT MOBILE COMMUNICATIONS	INMARSAT Ltd.-2 @179E in POR INMARSAT Ltd.-3 @178E in POR
E990032	SES-STA-20000223-00283	COMSAT CORPORATION / COMSAT MOBILE COMMUNICATIONS	INMARSAT Ltd.-2 @17W in AOR-E @55W in AOR-W INMARSAT Ltd.-3 @15.5W (AOR-E) @54W in AOR-W
E990034	SES-STA-20000223-00282	COMSAT CORPORATION / COMSAT MOBILE COMMUNICATIONS	INMARSAT Ltd.-2 @17W in AOR-E @55W in AOR-W INMARSAT Ltd.-3 @15.5W (AOR-E) @54W in AOR-W
KA63	SES-STA-20000328-00481	STRATOS MOBILE NETWORKS (USA), LLC	INMARSAT Ltd.-1 INMARSAT Ltd.-2 INMARSAT Ltd.-3 @54W in AOR-W
KA76	SES-STA-20000328-00484	STRATOS MOBILE NETWORKS (USA), LLC	INMARSAT Ltd.-1 INMARSAT Ltd.-2 INMARSAT Ltd.-3 @178E in POR
KA227	SES-STA-20000328-00483	STRATOS MOBILE NETWORKS (USA), LLC	INMARSAT Ltd.-1 INMARSAT Ltd.-2 INMARSAT Ltd.-3 @15.5W (AOR-E)